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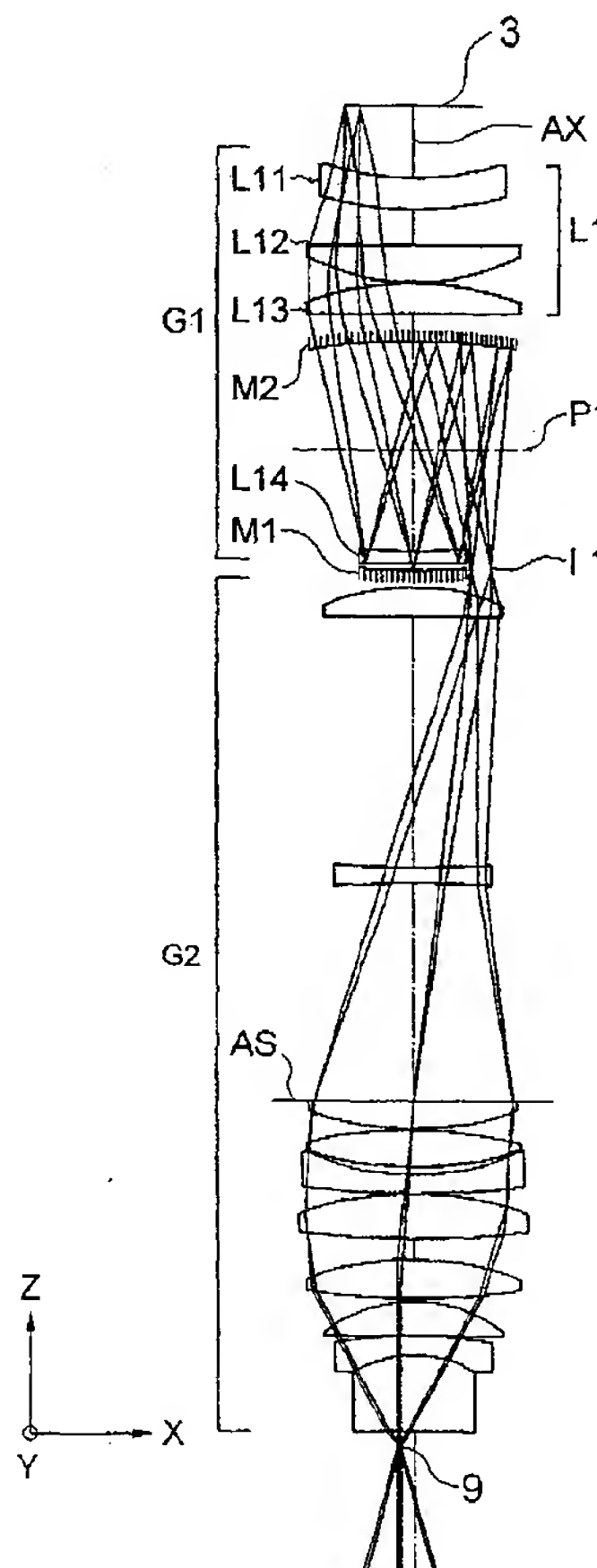
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(54) **Catadioptric optical system and projection exposure apparatus equipped with the same**

(57) A catadioptric optical system comprising a first imaging optical system for forming an intermediate image of a first plane surface, a second imaging optical system for forming a final image of the first plane surface onto a second plane surface which is substantially parallel to the first plane surface, and a catadioptric type optical system disposed in the optical path from the first plane surface to the second plane surface and including a first reflecting surface which reflects light coming from through the first plane surface and a second reflecting surface for directing the light reflected by the first reflecting surface toward the second plane surface. At least one of the first and second reflecting surfaces is a concave reflecting surface. All of the optical elements of the catadioptric optical system are disposed on a single linear optical axis.

FIG. 2



Description

[0001] This application claims the benefit of Japanese Patent application No. 11-199467 which is hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTIONField of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates to a catadioptric optical system and a projection exposure apparatus equipped with the catadioptric optical system suitable when manufacturing in a photolithography process, for example, a semiconductor device or a liquid crystal display device. In particular, the invention relates to a catadioptric optical system suitable for a scanning type projection exposure apparatus.

Related Background Art

[0003] In a photolithography process for manufacturing semiconductor devices and the like, there is used a projection exposure apparatus by which a pattern image formed on a photomask or reticle (collectively referred to as "reticle" hereinafter) is projected and exposed onto a wafer, a glass plate, etc. coated with a photoresist or the like via a projection optical system. As the integration of the semiconductor devices and the like is improved, there has been a demand for a higher resolution of the projection optical system used in the projection exposure apparatus. In order to satisfy such a demand, there have been occurred necessities for shortening the wavelength of illumination light and increasing the numerical aperture (hereinafter referred to as "NA") of the projection optical system. In particular, regarding the exposure wavelength, replacing g-line ($\lambda = 436$ nm), i-line ($\lambda = 356$ nm) and, further, KrF excimer laser light ($\lambda = 248$ nm) are currently used. In the future, ArF excimer laser light ($\lambda = 193$ nm) and F₂ laser light ($\lambda = 157$ nm) will probably be used.

[0004] However, as the wavelength of the illumination light becomes shorter, a fewer kinds of glass materials can be practically used due to light absorption. As a result, when the projection optical system is constructed by a refraction system alone, that is, only by optical elements not including a reflecting mirror with refractive power (a concave or convex mirror), chromatic aberration cannot be corrected. Additionally, because the optical performance required of the projection optical system is extremely high, various kinds of aberrations should preferably be corrected to a level of almost no aberration. Eighteen or more lens elements are required for correcting various aberrations to a desired optical performance by a refraction type projection optical system constituted of lens elements (see, for example, Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication Hei No. 5-173065), and it is difficult to suppress light absorption and avoid manufacturing costs' increase. Moreover, when extreme ultraviolet light with a wavelength of 200 nm or less is used, the optical performance may be affected by, for example, light absorption in glass material and on an anti-reflection film on the lens surface.

[0005] Further, although the oscillation bandwidth of laser light sources with an oscillation wavelength of 200 nm or less has been considerably narrowed, the bandwidth has still a certain wavelength width. Thus, to project and expose a pattern maintaining good contrast, correction of chromatic aberration of the order of pm (pico meter) is required. The optical system disclosed in the above-mentioned Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication Hei No. 5-173065 is a refraction type lens system made from a single kind of glass material, and its chromatic aberration is too large to be used with a light source having a wavelength width.

[0006] On the other hand, a reflection type optical system utilizing power (refractive power) of a concave mirror and the like does not effect chromatic aberration and, with respect to Petzval sum, creates a contribution with an opposite sign to a lens element. As a result, a so-called catadioptric optical system (hereinafter referred to as "catadioptric optical system"), which combines a catoptric optical system and a dioptric optical system together, can correct chromatic aberration as well as other various aberrations to a level of almost no aberration without increasing the number of lenses. Thus, a catadioptric optical system is an optical system having at least one lens element and at least one reflecting mirror with refractive power.

[0007] However, when a concave mirror is incorporated on the optical axis of a projection optical system of a projection exposure apparatus, light from the reticle side incident on the concave mirror is reflected toward the reticle. Addressing this problem, techniques to separate the optical path of light incident on a concave mirror from the optical path of light reflected by the concave mirror and also to direct the reflected light from the concave mirror to the wafer direction, i.e., various techniques to implement a projection optical system by a catadioptric optical system, have been extensively proposed.

[0008] However, when using a beam splitter as is used in the optical system disclosed in Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication Hei No. 5-281469, it is difficult to secure large-sized glass material for manufacturing the optical system. In addition, in the case of the optical system disclosed in Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication Hei No.

5-51718, an optical path folding mirror (folding mirror) or a beam splitter is required, a plurality of lens barrels are required for manufacturing the optical system, resulting in such problems as difficulties in manufacture or in adjusting optical elements. A light beam impinges obliquely onto a plane reflecting mirror (folding mirror) for changing the optical path direction incorporated in a catadioptric optical system as necessary. Accordingly, extremely high surface accuracy of the mirror is required, resulting thus in the difficulty of the manufacture of the mirror. Further, the mirror is easily affected by vibration.

[0009] Meanwhile, when an optical path separating method disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,717,518 is used, optical elements constituting a optical system can all be disposed along a single optical axis. As a result, the optical system can be manufactured with high accuracy following an optical element adjustment method conventionally used in the projection optical system manufacture. However, the system requires a central light-shielding portion to shield light beam propagating along the optical axis, resulting in the contrast deterioration of a pattern of a certain frequency.

[0010] Additionally, because it is difficult to provide an anti-reflection film with sufficient optical performance in the extreme ultraviolet wavelength region, it is also required that the number of optical elements constituting an optical system be reduced as much as possible.

[0011] As can be seen from the above, it is preferable that, to expose a pattern having a linewidth of 0.18 μm or less, an optical system in which a good chromatic aberration correction capability is realized even when using a light source with a wavelength of 200 nm or less such as ArF or F_2 laser, no central light-shielding is used, a high numerical aperture of NA 0.6 or more can be secured, and the number of refractive and reflecting components is reduced as much as possible be provided

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0012] The present invention has been made in view of the above problems, and the object of the invention is to provide a catadioptric optical system in which chromatic aberration is well corrected in the extreme ultraviolet wavelength region, in particular, even in the wavelength region of 200 nm or less, and a NA (0.6 or more) necessary for high resolution is secured, and the number of refractive and reflecting components is reduced as much as possible; a projection exposure apparatus equipped with the optical system.

[0013] To resolve the above problems, the present invention provides a catadioptric optical system, which comprises a first catadioptric type imaging optical system for forming an intermediate image of a first surface and a second refraction type imaging optical system for telecentrically forming the final image of said first surface onto a second surface based on said light from said intermediate image;

wherein said first imaging optical system has a lens group including at least one positive lens element, a first reflecting surface which reflects light passed through said lens group, and a second reflecting surface for directing light reflected by said first reflecting surface to said second imaging optical system; at least one of said first and second reflecting surfaces is a concave reflecting surface; and said second imaging optical system has an aperture diaphragm;

wherein all of the optical elements of said catadioptric optical system are disposed on a single linear optical axis, and said first surface and said second surface are plane surfaces which are approximately mutually parallel; and wherein an exit pupil of said catadioptric optical system is approximately circular. Here, the second reflecting surface has an aperture portion (hole) at an off-axis position for making light from the first surface pass or pass through in the direction of the first reflecting surface, and the first reflecting surface also has an aperture portion (hole) for making the light reflected by said second reflecting surface pass or pass through in the direction of the second imaging optical system.

[0014] That the exit pupil is substantially circular means that there is no shielding object in the neighborhood of the center of the optical axis.

[0015] Further, in the present invention, the following condition is preferably satisfied:

$$0.04 < |fM1|/L < 0.4$$

wherein $fM1$ is a focal length of said concave reflecting surface of said first or second reflecting surface, and L is a distance along the optical axis from said first surface to said second surface.

[0016] Further, in the present invention, the following condition is preferably satisfied:

$$0.6 < |\beta M1| < 20$$

wherein β_{M1} is a magnification of said concave reflecting surface of said first or second reflecting surface.

[0017] Further, in the present invention, the following condition is preferably satisfied:

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$$0.3 < |\beta_1| < 1.8$$

wherein β_1 is a magnification of said first imaging optical system.

[0018] Further, the present invention provides a projection exposure apparatus comprising:

10 an illumination optical system for illuminating a mask on which a predetermined pattern is formed; and
a catadioptric optical system according to any one of claims 1-7 or 10 to 14 for projecting said predetermined pattern of said mask disposed on said first surface onto a photosensitive substrate disposed on said second surface.

15 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0019] FIG. 1 is a view schematically illustrating the configuration of a projection exposure apparatus equipped with a catadioptric projection optical system to which the present invention is applied.

20 [0020] FIG. 2 is a view illustrating a lens configuration of a catadioptric optical system in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention.

[0021] FIG. 3 is a view showing transverse aberrations of the catadioptric optical system in accordance with the first embodiment.

[0022] FIG. 4 is a view illustrating a lens configuration of a catadioptric optical system in accordance with a second embodiment of the present invention.

25 [0023] FIG. 5 is a view showing transverse aberrations of the catadioptric optical system in accordance with the second embodiment.

[0024] FIG. 6 is a view illustrating a lens configuration of a catadioptric optical system in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention.

30 [0025] FIG. 7 is a view showing transverse aberrations of the catadioptric optical system in accordance with the third embodiment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

35 [0026] In the following, the catadioptric optical system in accordance with the present invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings. The system is a catadioptric optical system provided with a first catadioptric type imaging optical system G1 for forming an intermediate image I1 of a first surface 3 and with a second refraction type imaging optical system G2 for telecentrically forming the final image of the first surface 3 onto a second surface 9 (wafer surface, i.e., the final image plane) based on light from the intermediate image. The first optical system G1 has a lens group including at least one positive lens element, a first reflecting surface M1 which reflects light passed
40 through the lens group and is substantially collimated, and a second reflecting surface M2 for directing light reflected by the first reflecting surface M1 to the second imaging optical system G2; and at least one of the first and second reflecting surfaces is a concave reflecting surface. Further, the second imaging optical system G2 has aperture diaphragm AS, all of the optical elements of the catadioptric optical system are disposed on a single linear optical axis AX, the first surface 3 and the second surface 9 are plane surfaces which are substantially mutually parallel; and an
45 exit pupil of the catadioptric optical system is substantially circular. In the present invention, a structurally reasonable catadioptric optical system is achieved by making the effective projected area an annular shape and by preventing mutual interference of optical elements through appropriately positioning the first and second reflecting surfaces M1 and M2.

[0027] Further, in the present invention, the following condition is preferably satisfied:

50

$$(1) \quad 0.04 < f_{M1}/L < 0.4$$

55 wherein f_{M1} is a focal length of the concave reflecting surface of the first or second reflecting surface, and L is a distance along the optical axis AX from the first surface 3 to the second surface 9. The condition (1) defines an appropriate power range of the concave reflecting surface. In the present inventive optical system, positive Petzval sum created by refractive lenses is corrected by negative Petzval sum created by the concave mirror. When the power is over the upper limit value of the condition (1), the positive Petzval sum created by refractive lenses cannot be sufficiently

corrected, and the flatness of the image deteriorates. In contrast, when the power is below the lower limit value of the condition (1), the Petzval sum is overcorrected, and the flatness of the image deteriorates similarly

[0028] Further, in the present invention, the following condition is preferably satisfied:

5

$$(2) \quad 0.6 < |\beta M1| < 20$$

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wherein $\beta M1$ represents a magnification of the concave reflecting surface of the first or second reflecting surface. The condition (2) defines an appropriate magnification range of the concave reflecting mirror. When the magnification is over the upper limit value of the condition (2) or is below the lower limit value of the condition (2), symmetry of the first imaging system G1 is seriously affected, large coma aberration being produced, and causes the image deterioration.

[0029] Further, in the present invention, the following condition is preferably satisfied:

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$$(3) \quad 0.3 < |\beta 1| < 1.8$$

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wherein $\beta 1$ is a magnification of the first imaging optical system G1. The condition (3) defines an appropriate magnification range of the first imaging optical system G1. When the magnification is over the upper limit value of the condition (3) or is below the lower limit value of the condition (3), power balance collapses, causing distortion aberration (distortion) and coma aberration, and the imaging performance deteriorates.

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[0030] Further, in the present invention, it is preferable that, the first imaging optical system G1 has a light beam which intersects at least three times a plane P1 perpendicular to the optical axis AX. Light from the first surface 3, after being refracted by the lens group L1, passes through the plane P1 (the first time) to the reflecting surface M1, and, after being reflected by the surface, passes through again the plane P1 (the second time) to the reflecting surface M2. Further, the light, after being reflected by the reflecting surface M2, passes through again the plane P1 (the third time) and forms the intermediate image I1. In addition, by having made the effective projected area an annular shape, the light and the optical elements such as the reflecting surfaces M1 and M2 can be positioned so as not to physically interfere with each other.

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[0031] Further, as mentioned above, the catadioptric optical system of the present invention is telecentric on the second surface 9 side (wafer surface side), but it is preferable that the optical system be additionally telecentric on the first surface 3 side (reticle surface side).

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[0032] In the following, embodiments of the present invention will be described with reference to the attached drawings. FIG. 1 is a drawing schematically illustrating the overall configuration of a projection exposure apparatus equipped with a projection optical system in accordance with any embodiment of the present invention optical systems. Note that, in FIG. 1, a Z-axis is set parallel to the optical axis AX of the projection optical system 8 constituting the projection exposure optical system, an X-axis is set parallel to the plane of the drawing of FIG. 1, and a Y-axis is set perpendicular to the plane of the drawing, both of X- and Y- axes being in a plane perpendicular to the optical axis AX. Further, a reticle 3, as a projection original plate, on which a predetermined circuit pattern is formed is disposed on the object plane of the projection optical system 8, and a wafer 9, as a substrate, coated with a photoresist is disposed on the image plane of the projection optical system 8.

40

[0033] Light emitted from light source 1, via the illumination optical system 2, uniformly illuminates the reticle on which the predetermined pattern is formed. One or more folding mirrors for changing the optical path direction are disposed, as required, on the optical path from the light source 1 to the illumination optical system 2.

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[0034] Note further that the illumination optical system 2 comprises optical systems such as an optical integrator constituted of, for example, a flyeye lens or an internal reflection type integrator for forming a plane light source having a predetermined size and shape; a variable field stop (reticle blind) for defining the size and shape of an illumination area on the reticle 3; and a field stop imaging optical system for projecting the image of this field stop on the reticle. Also note that, as an optical system from the light source 1 to the field stop, the illumination optical system disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,345,292 may be applied.

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[0035] The reticle 3 is, via reticle holder 4, held on reticle stage 5 parallel to the XY plane. On the reticle 3 is formed a pattern to be transferred, and the overall pattern area is illuminated with light from the illumination optical system 2. The reticle stage 5 is so configured that the stage is two-dimensionally movable along a reticle plane (i.e., the XY plane) by the effect of a drive system, not shown, and that the coordinate position of the stage is measured by interferometer 7 using reticle moving mirror 6 and is position-controlled.

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[0036] Light from the pattern formed on the reticle 3 forms, via the projection optical system 8, a mask pattern image onto the wafer which is a photosensitive substrate. The projection optical system 8 has a variable aperture diaphragm AS (see FIG. 2) near its pupil and is substantially telecentric on both of the reticle 3 and wafer 9 sides.

[0037] The wafer 9 is, via a wafer holder 10, held on a wafer stage 11 parallel to the XY plane. Onto a substantially similar exposure area to the illuminated area on the reticle 3 is thus formed the pattern image.

[0038] The wafer stage 11 is so configured that the stage is two-dimensionally movable along a wafer plane (i.e., the XY plane) by the effect of a drive system, not shown, and that the coordinate position of the stage is measured by interferometer 13 using wafer moving mirror 12 and thus the wafer stage is position-controlled.

[0039] As described above, the field view area on the mask 3 (illumination area) and the projection area (exposure area) on the wafer 9 both defined by the projection optical system 8 are rectangle-shaped areas having a short-side along the X-axis. Aligning the mask 3 and the wafer 9 is thus performed by using the drive systems and the interferometers (7, 13), and the wafer 9 is positioned onto the image plane of the projection optical system by the use of an autofocus/autoleveling system, not shown. Further, by synchronously moving (scanning) the mask stage 5 and the wafer stage 11, and accordingly, the mask 3 and the wafer 9, along the short-side direction of the rectangle-shaped exposure and illumination areas, i.e., along the X-direction, the mask pattern is scanningly exposed onto an area on the wafer 9 of which width is equal to the long-side length of the exposure area and of which length is equal to the scanning (moving) length of the wafer 9.

[0040] Note that over the overall optical path between the light source 1 and the wafer 9 is formed an inert gas atmosphere such as nitrogen or helium gas into which the exposure light is little absorbed.

(First Embodiment)

[0041] FIG. 2 is a drawing illustrating a lens configuration of a catadioptric optical system in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention. The system is a catadioptric optical system comprising a first catadioptric type imaging optical system G1 for forming an intermediate image I1 of a reticle (first surface) 3 and a second refraction type imaging optical system G2 for telecentrically forming the final image of the reticle surface 3 onto a wafer (second surface) 9 based on light from the intermediate image I1.

[0042] The first imaging optical system G1 has a lens group L1 including at least one positive lens element, a first reflecting surface M1 which reflects light passed through the lens group L1, and a second reflecting surface M2 for directing light reflected by the first reflecting surface M1 to the second imaging optical system G2, at least one of the first and second reflecting surfaces being a concave reflecting surface, and the second imaging optical system G2 having an aperture diaphragm AS. Further, all of the optical elements of the catadioptric optical system are disposed on a single linear optical axis AX, the reticle surface 3 and the wafer surface 9 are plane surfaces which are substantially mutually parallel; and an exit pupil of the catadioptric optical system is substantially circular.

[0043] In Table 1 are listed values of items of the projection optical system in accordance with the first embodiment. In Table 1, numerals in the leftmost column represent the order of lens surfaces from the reticle 3 (first object plane) side, r is the radius of curvature of the lens surface, d is the lens surface interval from the lens surface to the next lens surface, β is the overall magnification of the catadioptric optical system, NA is the numerical aperture on the wafer side (the second surface side), and λ is the standard wavelength. Note that the refractive indexes of the glass used in the first embodiment equal to those in the second embodiment.

[0044] Further, ASP in the lens data represents an aspherical surface. In each embodiment, an aspherical surface can be expressed by the following mathematical formula:

$$Z = (y^2/r) / [1 + \{1 - (1 + \kappa) \cdot y^2 / r^2\}^{1/2}] + A \cdot y^4 + B \cdot y^6 + C \cdot y^8 + D \cdot y^{10} + E \cdot y^{12} + F \cdot y^{14}$$

wherein y is the height in the direction normal to the optical axis, Z is a displacement amount (sag amount) from the tangential plane at the apex of the aspherical surface to a position of the aspherical surface at the height y measured along the direction of the optical axis, r is the radius of curvature at the apex, κ is a conical coefficient, and A~F are aspherical coefficients of the n-th order.

[0045] Note that, in all of the values of items of the following embodiments, similar reference codes to those of this embodiment are used. Here, as an example of the unit for the radius of curvature r and the lens surface interval d in the values of items of all embodiments, mm may be used.

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[Table 1]

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$ \beta = 1/4$ $NA = 0.75$ $\lambda = 193.3 \text{ nm}$			
No.	r	d	Glass Material
1	-211.97583	30.000000	SiO2
2	-354.80161	35.347349	
3	-8888.21083	38.000000	SiO2
4	-227.79960	0.944905	
5	303.84978	27.415767	SiO2
	ASP:		
	$\kappa=0.000000$		
	$A=+0.743561 \times 10^{-8}$	$B = 0.230589 \times 10^{-12}$	
	$C=-0.115168 \times 10^{-17}$	$D=-0.753145 \times 10^{-22}$	
6	237634.15996	30.000000	
7	∞ (Plane)	214.776416	
8	-348.87932	12.000000	SiO2
9	4267.07121	5.579827	
10	-362.24910	-5.579827	(Reflecting surface)
	ASP:		
	$\kappa=3.260270$		
	$A=+0.859110 \times 10^{-8}$	$B=+0.351935 \times 10^{-12}$	
	$C=-0.100064 \times 10^{-15}$	$D=+0.318170 \times 10^{-19}$	
	$E=-0.489883 \times 10^{-23}$		
11	4267.07087	-12.000000	SiO2
12	-348.87932	-214.776416	
13	642.80918	246.776416	(Reflecting surface)
	ASP:		
	$\kappa=1.840470$		
	$A=0.198825 \times 10^{-8}$	$B=0.556479 \times 10^{-13}$	
	$C=0.597091 \times 10^{-18}$	$D=0.492729 \times 10^{-22}$	
	$E=-0.103460 \times 10^{-26}$		
14	208.71115	33.000000	SiO2
15	-2529.72930	257.546203	
16	-1810.41832	14.500000	SiO2
	ASP:		
	$\kappa = 0.000000$		
	$A=-0.885983 \times 10^{-7}$	$B=-0.200044 \times 10^{-11}$	
	$C=-0.570861 \times 10^{-16}$	$D=+0.456578 \times 10^{-22}$	
	$E=-0.493085 \times 10^{-25}$		
17	851.98207	220.408225	
18	15200.59096	30.000000	SiO2
19	-268.76515	0.200000	
20	434.96005	36.013163	CaF2
	ASP:		
	$\kappa=0.000000$		
	$A=-0.161380 \times 10^{-7}$	$B=+0.153066 \times 10^{-12}$	
	$C=+0.108604 \times 10^{-17}$	$D=+0.319975 \times 10^{-21}$	
	$E=-0.101080 \times 10^{-25}$		
21	-345.83883	10.489902	

[Table 1] (continued)

β = 1/4 NA = 0.75 λ = 193.3 nm			
No.	r	d	Glass Material
22	-215.91874	20.000000	SiO2
23	-619.95152	0.200000	
24	415.08345	40.000000	
25	-1275.90912	26.288090	SiO2
26	324.91386	35.000000	
27	-740.00769	5.214992	
ASP:			
κ=0.000000			
A=+0.138330×10 ⁻⁷		B=+0.194125×10 ⁻¹²	
C=-0.258860×10 ⁻¹⁰		D=-0.196062×10 ⁻²²	
E=+0.363539×10 ⁻²⁶			
28	140.91060	34.000000	SiO2
29	1406.88948	0.500000	
30	355.40083	17.506069	
31	98.27403	1.561573	SiO2
32	105.27944	75.940555	
33	1597.37798	12.920542	

(Refractive index of glass material)			
	$\lambda=193.3\text{nm}+0.48\text{pm}$	$\lambda=193.3\text{nm}$	$\lambda=193.3\text{nm}-0.48\text{pm}$
SiO2	1.56032536	1.5603261	1.56032685
CaF2	1.50145434	1.5014548	1.50145526

(Condition correspondence value)

[0046]

$$(1) \quad |fM1| = 181.1246/1350 = 0.13417$$

$$(2) \quad |\beta M1| = |-1.21007| = 1.21007$$

$$(3) \quad |\beta 1| = |1.1454| = 1.1454$$

[0047] FIG. 3 shows transverse aberrations (coma aberrations) of the catadioptric optical system in accordance with the embodiment in the meridional (tangential) and sagittal directions. In each diagram, Y indicates the image height, continuous line indicates the standard wavelength ($\lambda = 193.3\text{nm}$), dotted line indicates $\lambda = 193.3\text{nm}+0.48\text{pm}$, and alternate long and short line indicates $\lambda=193.3\text{nm}-0.48\text{pm}$ (the same is applied in the second embodiment). Note that, in all of the various aberration diagrams of the following embodiments, similar reference codes to those of this embodiment are used. As can be clearly seen from the aberration diagrams, aberrations are well-balancedly corrected in the overall exposure area in the catadioptric optical system of this embodiment in spite of the both-sides telecentricity along with the imaging performance deterioration due to the light absorption by the applied glass materials being prevented.

(Second Embodiment)

[0048] FIG. 4 is a drawing illustrating a lens configuration of a catadioptric optical system in accordance with a second em-

bodiment. The system is a catadioptric optical system comprising a first catadioptric type imaging optical system G1 for forming an intermediate image I1 of a reticle (first surface) 3 and a second refraction type imaging optical system G2 for telecentrically forming the final image of the reticle surface 3 onto a wafer (second surface) 9 based on light from the intermediate image I1.

[0049] The first imaging optical system G1 has a lens group L1 including at least one positive lens element, a first reflecting surface M1 which reflects light passed through the lens group L1, and a second reflecting surface M2 for directing light reflected by the first reflecting surface M1 to the second imaging optical system G2; at least one of the first and second reflecting surfaces is a concave reflecting surface; and the second imaging optical system G2 has an aperture diaphragm AS. Further, all of the optical elements of the catadioptric optical system are disposed on a single linear optical axis AX, the reticle surface 3 and the wafer surface 9 are plane surfaces which are substantially mutually parallel; and an exit pupil of the catadioptric optical system is substantially circular.

[0050] In Table 2 are listed values of items of the projection optical system in accordance with the second embodiment. Note that reference codes in Table 2 are similarly defined as those in FIG. 1, aspherical surface ASP can be expressed by the above-described mathematical formula.

[Table 2]

[Table 2]			
β = 1/6 NA = 0.75 λ = 193.3 nm			
No.	r	d	Glass Material
1	521.54601	23.000000	SiO2
2	-191794.5079	0.944905	
3	194.28987	30.000000	SiO2
	ASP: κ=0.000000 A=-0.155326×10 ⁻⁸ B=-0.140791×10 ⁻¹² C=+0.176234×10 ⁻¹⁷ D=-0.155625×10 ⁻²¹		
4	452.66236	300.000000	
5	-589.38426	12.000000	SiO2
6	1106.79674	5.000000	
7	-482.64964	-5.000000	(Reflecting surface)
	ASP: κ = 7.430564 A=+0.199000×10 ⁻⁸ B=-0.957889×10 ⁻¹² C=-0.122172×10 ⁻¹⁵ D=+0.305937×10 ⁻¹⁹ E=-0.126279×10 ⁻²²		
8	1106.79671	-12.000000	SiO2
9	-589.38426	-273.707398	
10	455.39924	477.535323	(Reflecting surface)
	ASP: κ=0.000000 A=+0.434199×10 ⁻⁹ B=+0.327908×10 ⁻¹⁴ C=+0.360429×10 ⁻¹⁹ D=-0.622589×10 ⁻²⁴		
> 11	300.69546	29.000000	SiO2
12	-3836.44237	191.527911	
13	-4996.75666	15.000000	SiO2
	ASP: κ=0.000000 A=-0.601871E-07 B=-0.111865×10 ⁻¹¹ C=-0.177478×10 ⁻¹⁶ D=+0.104425×10 ⁻²³ E=-0.236872×10 ⁻²⁵		
14	1631.22452	164.229823	
15	761.43970	32.000000	SiO2
16	-416.24467	7.787594	
17	385.90210	43.198650	CaF2
	ASP: κ=0.000000		

[Table 2] (continued)

No.	r	d	Glass Material
	$A=-0.127289 \times 10^{-7}$ $C=-0.237720 \times 10^{-18}$ $E=-0.177785 \times 10^{-25}$	$B=+0.112712 \times 10^{-12}$ $D=+0.283035 \times 10^{-21}$	
18	-325.55463	16.575364	
19	-220.30976	20.000000	SiO2
20	-755.61144	9.063759	
21	359.10784	37.871908	SiO2
22	-1575.91947	1.464560	
23	235.63612	32.000000	SiO2
24	-2200.62013	1.000000	
	ASP:		
	$\kappa = 0.000000$		
	$A=+0.198616 \times 10^{-7}$ $C=0.106669 \times 10^{-16}$ $E=+0.853932 \times 10^{-26}$	$B=-0.109623 \times 10^{-12}$ $D=-0.466071 \times 10^{-21}$	
25	159.89570	33.600000	SiO2
26	2158.79385	0.000000	
27	406.09986	9.500000	SiO2
28	68.76384	4.196119	
29	70.58705	75.473363	SiO2
30	2340.17874	9.379567	

(Condition correspondence value)

[0051]

$$(1) \quad |fM1| = 241.3248/1339.26 = 0.18019$$

$$(2) \quad |\beta M1| = | -12.51 | = 12.51$$

$$(3) \quad |\beta 1| = | -0.6135 | = 0.6135$$

[0052] FIG. 5 shows transverse aberration diagrams of the catadioptric optical system in accordance with the second embodiment. As can be clearly seen also from the aberration diagrams, aberrations are well-balancedly corrected in the overall exposure area.

(Third Embodiment)

[0053] FIG. 6 is a drawing illustrating a lens configuration of a catadioptric optical system in accordance with a third embodiment. The system is a catadioptric optical system comprising a first catadioptric type imaging optical system G1 for forming an intermediate image I1 of a reticle (first surface) 3 and a second refraction type imaging optical system G2 for telecentrically forming the final image of the reticle surface 3 onto a wafer (second surface) 9 based on light from the intermediate image I1.

[0054] The first imaging optical system G1 has a lens group L1 including at least one positive lens element, a first reflecting surface M1 which reflects light passed through the lens group L1, and a second reflecting surface M2 for directing light reflected by the first reflecting surface M1 to the second imaging optical system G2; at least one of the first and second reflecting surfaces is a concave reflecting surface; and the second imaging optical system G2 has an aperture diaphragm AS. Further, all of the optical elements of the catadioptric optical system are disposed on a single linear optical axis AX, the reticle surface 3 and the wafer surface 9 are plane surfaces which are substantially mutually parallel; and an exit pupil of the catadioptric optical system is substantially circular.

[0055] In Table 3 are listed values of items of the projection optical system in accordance with the third embodiment.

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Note that reference codes in Table 3 are similarly defined as those in FIG. 1, aspherical surface ASP can be expressed by the above-described mathematical formula.

[Table 3]

5	β = 1/4 NA = 0.75 λ = 157.6 nm			
	No.	r	d	Glass Material
10	1	314.69351	28.000000	CaF2
	2	-934.65900	37.000000	
	ASP:			
	κ = 0.000000			
15	A=-0.229218×10 ⁻⁷		B=+0.947150×10 ⁻¹²	
	C=-0.128922×10 ⁻¹⁶		D=-0.190103×10 ⁻²⁰	
	E=-0.386976×10 ²⁵			
	3	-639.17871	23.000000	CaF2
	ASP:			
20	κ = 0.000000			
	A = -0.108326×10 ⁻⁷		B=+0.924937×10 ⁻¹²	
	C=-0.326453×10 ⁻¹⁶		D=-0.342966×10 ⁻²⁰	
	E=+0.132323×10 ⁻²⁵			
25	4	-318.93314	245.763430	CaF2
	5	-108.60441	10.000000	
	ASP:			
	κ = -0.495309			
30	A = 0.486675×10 ⁻⁷		B=0.492347×10 ⁻¹¹	
	C = -0.606490×10 ⁻¹⁶		D = 0.180500×10 ⁻¹⁸	
	E = -0.766603×10 ⁻²³		F = 0.138880×10 ⁻²⁶	
	6	-2160.76276	14.249561	(Reflecting surface)
	7	-165.34978	-14.249561	
	ASP:			
35	κ = 1.132286			
	A = +0.201000×10 ⁻⁷		B = +0.102160×10 ⁻¹¹	
	C = -0.209696×10 ⁻¹⁶		D = +0.126536×10 ⁻¹⁹	
	E = +0.429651×10 ⁻²⁴		F = -0.160033×10 ⁻²⁹	
40	8	-2160.76276	-10.000000	CaF2
	9	-108.60441	-245.763430	CaF2
	ASP:			
	κ = 0.495309			
45	A = +0.486675×10 ⁻⁷		B = +0.492347×10 ⁻¹¹	
	C = -0.606490×10 ⁻¹⁶		D= +0.180500×10 ⁻¹⁶	
	E = -0.766603×10 ⁻²³		F = +0.138880×10 ⁻²⁶	
	10	-318.93314	-23.000000	
	11	-639.17869	-4.391997	CaF2
	ASP:			
50	κ = 0.000000			
	A = -0.108326×10 ⁻⁷		B = +0.924936×10 ⁻¹²	
	C = -0.326453×10 ⁻¹⁶		D = -0.342966×10 ⁻²⁰	
	E = +0.132323×10 ⁻²⁵			
55	12	-1183.44883	4.391997	

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[Table 3] (continued)

	No.	r	d	Glass Material
5		ASP: $\kappa = 0.000000$ $A = -0.183262 \times 10^{-10}$ $B = -0.246349 \times 10^{-12}$ $C = +0.147599 \times 10^{-16}$ $D = +0.182045 \times 10^{-20}$ $E = -0.115790 \times 10^{-25}$		
10	13	-639.17869	23.000000	CaF2
15		ASP: $\kappa = 0.000000$ $A = -0.108326 \times 10^{-7}$ $B = +0.924936 \times 10^{-12}$ $C = -0.326453 \times 10^{-16}$ $D = -0.342966 \times 10^{-20}$ $E = +0.132323 \times 10^{-25}$		
	14	-318.93314	300.763420	CaF2
	15	756.86009	41.000000	
	16	-412.30872	15.942705	
20		ASP: $\kappa = 0.000000$ $A = +0.361860 \times 10^{-8}$ $B = +0.893121 \times 10^{-14}$ $C = +0.135118 \times 10^{-18}$ $D = -0.735265 \times 10^{-23}$ $E = +0.151108 \times 10^{-27}$		
25	17	382.45831	36.000000	CaF2
	18	2411.92028	120.195566	CaF2
	19	203.57233	23.670903	
30		ASP: $\kappa = 0.000000$ $A = -0.666118 \times 10^{-8}$ $B = -0.225767 \times 10^{-12}$ $C = -0.790187 \times 10^{-19}$ $D = -0.460596 \times 10^{-21}$ $E = 0.210563 \times 10^{-25}$ $F = -0.570908 \times 10^{-30}$		
	20	174.15615	417.834922	CaF2
35	21	164.52297	20.000000	
40		ASP: $\kappa = 0.000000$ $A = +0.153241 \times 10^{-7}$ $B = +0.610531 \times 10^{-12}$ $C = +0.252256 \times 10^{-15}$ $D = -0.150451 \times 10^{-20}$ $E = +0.326670 \times 10^{-23}$ $F = -0.132886 \times 10^{-27}$		
	22	746.82563	20.284156	CaF2
	23	93.58470	23.000000	
45		ASP: $K = 0.000000$ $A = -0.267761 \times 10^{-7}$ $B = +0.970828 \times 10^{-12}$ $C = +0.117557 \times 10^{-15}$ $D = +0.718106 \times 10^{-19}$ $E = -0.162733 \times 10^{-22}$ $F = +0.586684 \times 10^{-26}$		
	24	256.99945	21.338588	CaF2
50	25	-129.21983	16.000000	
55		ASP: $\kappa = 0.000000$ $A = -0.588690 \times 10^{-8}$ $B = 0.461959 \times 10^{-12}$ $C = 0.130813 \times 10^{-14}$ $D = -0.849445 \times 10^{-19}$ $E = -0.123125 \times 10^{-22}$ $F = +0.290566 \times 10^{-26}$		
	26	-219.48522	1.000000	CaF2
	27	102.75126	19.500000	

[Table 3] (continued)

No.	r	d	Glass Material
28	ASP:		CaF2
	$\kappa = 0.000000$		
	$A = -0.862905 \times 10^{-7}$	$B = -0.119006 \times 10^{-10}$	
	$C = -0.124879 \times 10^{-14}$	$D = -0.367913 \times 10^{-18}$	
	$E = -0.451018 \times 10^{-22}$	$F = +0.119726 \times 10^{-26}$	
	593.36680	1.000000	
	83.17946	18.815833	
	ASP:		
	$\kappa = 0.111409$		
	$A = -0.393239 \times 10^{-7}$	$B = -0.723984 \times 10^{-11}$	
30	$C = -0.679503 \times 10^{-14}$	$D = -0.115217 \times 10^{-17}$	CaF2
	$E = -0.763652 \times 10^{-22}$	$F = +0.381047 \times 10^{-25}$	
	197.09247	1.000000	
	110.23581	43.599536	
	ASP:		
	$\kappa = 0.000000$		
	$A = +0.850436 \times 10^{-9}$	$B = +0.126341 \times 10^{-10}$	
	$C = +0.168625 \times 10^{-13}$	$D = +0.782396 \times 10^{-17}$	
	$E = -0.233726 \times 10^{-20}$	$F = +0.333624 \times 10^{-24}$	
	32	∞ (Plane)	

(Refractive index of glass material)

[0056]

	$\lambda = 157.6\text{nm}+1.29\text{pm}$	157.6nm	$157.6\text{nm}-1.29\text{pm}$
CaF2	1.55999383	1.56	1.56000617

(Condition correspondence value)

[0057]

(1) $|fM1| = 82.6749/1350=0.06124$

(2) $|f\beta M1| = |-0.96128|=0.96128$

(3) $|f\beta 1| = |-1.4453| = 1.4453$

[0058] FIG. 6 shows transverse aberration diagrams of the catadioptric optical system in accordance with the third embodiment. In each diagram, Y indicates the image height, continuous line indicates the standard wavelength ($\lambda = 157.6\text{nm}$), dotted line indicates $\lambda = 157.6\text{nm}+1.29\text{pm}$, and alternate long and short line indicates $\lambda = 157.6\text{nm}-1.29\text{pm}$. As can be clearly seen also from the aberration diagrams, aberrations are well-balancedly corrected in the overall exposure area.

[0059] Meanwhile, the above-mentioned embodiments are applied to a scanning type projection exposure apparatus using a step-and-scan method (scanning method) in which a mask and a wafer are synchronously scanned with the speed ratio equal to the exposure magnification β while each shot area on a wafer is exposed using an exposure area of circular arc shape (a shape partially cut out of an annular shape). However, when the exposure field is, for example, about 5mmX5mm square, the above-mentioned embodiments can be applied also to a step-and-repeat type (one-shot type) projection exposure apparatus in which, after the mask pattern image being transferred onto one shot area on a

wafer at one shot, a process wherein the mask pattern image is exposed onto a next shot area by two-dimensionally moving the wafer repetitively is repeated. It is to be noted that because, in the step-and-scan method, good imaging performance is required only within a slit-like exposure area (a shape extending in a predetermined direction, for example, a long rectangle, a trapezoid, a long hexagon, a circular arc, etc.), a larger shot area on a wafer can be exposed without large-sizing the projection optical system.

[0060] Meanwhile, in the above-mentioned embodiments, the invention is applied to a projection exposure apparatus used for the manufacture of semiconductor devices. However, in addition to a projection exposure apparatus used for manufacture of semiconductor devices, the invention can be applied to, for example, an exposure apparatus transferring a display pattern onto a glass plate used for the manufacture of display devices including liquid crystal display devices, to an exposure apparatus transferring a display pattern onto a ceramics wafer used for the manufacture of thin film magnetic heads, to an exposure apparatus used for the manufacture of image pick-up devices (CCD, etc.). Also, the invention can be applied to an exposure apparatus transferring a circuit pattern onto a glass substrate or a silicon wafer used for the manufacture of a reticle or a mask

[0061] The present invention is not limited to the above-mentioned embodiments, and it is obvious that the invention may be varied in many configurations without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

[0062] Further, the present invention can be configured as the following (A) or (B) configuration.

(A) A catadioptric optical system according to any one of claims 1-7 and 10 to 14, wherein all of the refractive elements constituting said catadioptric optical system are made from a single kind of glass material or from a plurality of glass materials including fluorite.

(B) A projection exposure apparatus comprising:

an illumination optical system for illuminating a mask on which a predetermined pattern is formed; and
a catadioptric optical system according to any one of claims 1-7 and 10 to 14 or to the above (A) for projecting said predetermined pattern of said mask disposed on said first surface onto a photosensitive substrate disposed on said second surface;

wherein said illumination optical system provides light of a wavelength of 250 nm or less.

[0063] As described above, the present invention can provide a catadioptric optical system in which chromatic aberration is well corrected in the extreme ultraviolet wavelength region, in particular, even in the wavelength region of 200 nm or less, and a NA (0.6 or more) necessary for high resolution is secured, and the number of refractive and reflecting components is reduced as much as possible. Further, exposure light can be effectively used since light absorption is little because of the small number of reflecting elements and the like. Still further, the projection exposure apparatus of the present invention, being equipped with the above-mentioned catadioptric optical system, has an advantage that fine mask patterns can be accurately transferred.

Claims

1. A catadioptric optical system comprising:

a first imaging optical system for forming an intermediate image of a first plane surface;
a second imaging optical system for forming a final image of said first plane surface onto a second plane surface which is substantially parallel to said first plane surface;
a catadioptric type optical system disposed in the optical path from said first plane surface to said second plane surface and including a first reflecting surface which reflects light coming from through said first plane surface and a second reflecting surface for directing the light reflected by said first reflecting surface toward said second plane surface, at least one of said first and second reflecting surfaces being a concave reflecting surface; and
all of the optical elements of said catadioptric optical system being disposed on a single linear optical axis.

2. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 1, wherein said first imaging optical system includes said catadioptric type optical system, and said second imaging optical system includes a refraction type optical system.

3. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 1, wherein said first imaging optical system includes a lens group including at least one positive lens element and said catadioptric type optical system, and said second imaging optical system includes a refraction type optical system and has an aperture diaphragm.

4. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 1, wherein an exit pupil of said catadioptric optical system is substantially circular.

5. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 1, wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$$0.04 < |f_{M1}|/L < 0.4$$

wherein f_{M1} is a focal length of said concave reflecting surface of said first or second reflecting surface, and L is a distance along the optical axis from said first surface to said second surface.

6. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 1, wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$$0.6 < |\beta_{M1}| < 20$$

wherein β_{M1} is a magnification of said concave reflecting surface of said first or second reflecting surface.

7. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 1, wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$$0.3 < |\beta_1| < 1.8$$

wherein β_1 is a magnification of said first imaging optical system.

8. A projection exposure apparatus comprising: an illumination optical system for illuminating a mask on which a predetermined pattern is formed; and a catadioptric optical system according to claim 1 for projecting said predetermined pattern of said mask disposed on said first surface onto a photosensitive substrate disposed on said second surface.

9. A projection exposure apparatus comprising: an illumination optical system for illuminating a mask on which a predetermined pattern is formed; and a catadioptric optical system according to claim 2 for projecting said predetermined pattern of said mask disposed on said first surface onto a photosensitive substrate disposed on said second surface.

10. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 2, wherein said first imaging optical system includes a lens group including at least one positive lens element and said catadioptric type optical system, and said second imaging optical system includes a refraction type optical system and has an aperture diaphragm.

11. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 10, wherein an exit pupil of said catadioptric optical system is substantially circular.

12. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 11, wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$$0.04 < |f_{M1}|/L < 0.4$$

wherein f_{M1} is a focal length of said concave reflecting surface of said first or second reflecting surface, and L is a distance along the optical axis from said first surface to said second surface.

13. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 12, wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$$0.6 < |\beta_{M1}| < 20$$

wherein β_{M1} is a magnification of said concave reflecting surface of said first or second reflecting surface.

14. A catadioptric optical system according to claim 13, wherein the following condition is satisfied:

$$0.3 < |\beta_1| < 1.8$$

wherein β_1 is a magnification of said first imaging optical system.

5

15. A projection exposure apparatus comprising:

10

an illumination optical system for illuminating a mask on which a predetermined pattern is formed; and
a catadioptric optical system according to claim 10 for projecting said predetermined pattern of said mask
disposed on said first surface onto a photosensitive substrate disposed on said second surface.

16. A projection exposure apparatus comprising:

15

an illumination optical system for illuminating a mask on which a predetermined pattern is formed; and
a catadioptric optical system according to claim 11 for projecting said predetermined pattern of said mask
disposed on said first surface onto a photosensitive substrate disposed on said second surface.

20

17. A catadioptric optical system having a single linear optical axis and operable to form intermediate and final images
of a first plane surface, the final image being formed on a second plane surface substantially parallel to the first
plane surface and the system including first and second reflectors, the first reflector reflecting light from the first
plane surface to the second reflector and the second reflector reflecting light to the second plane surface.

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FIG. 1

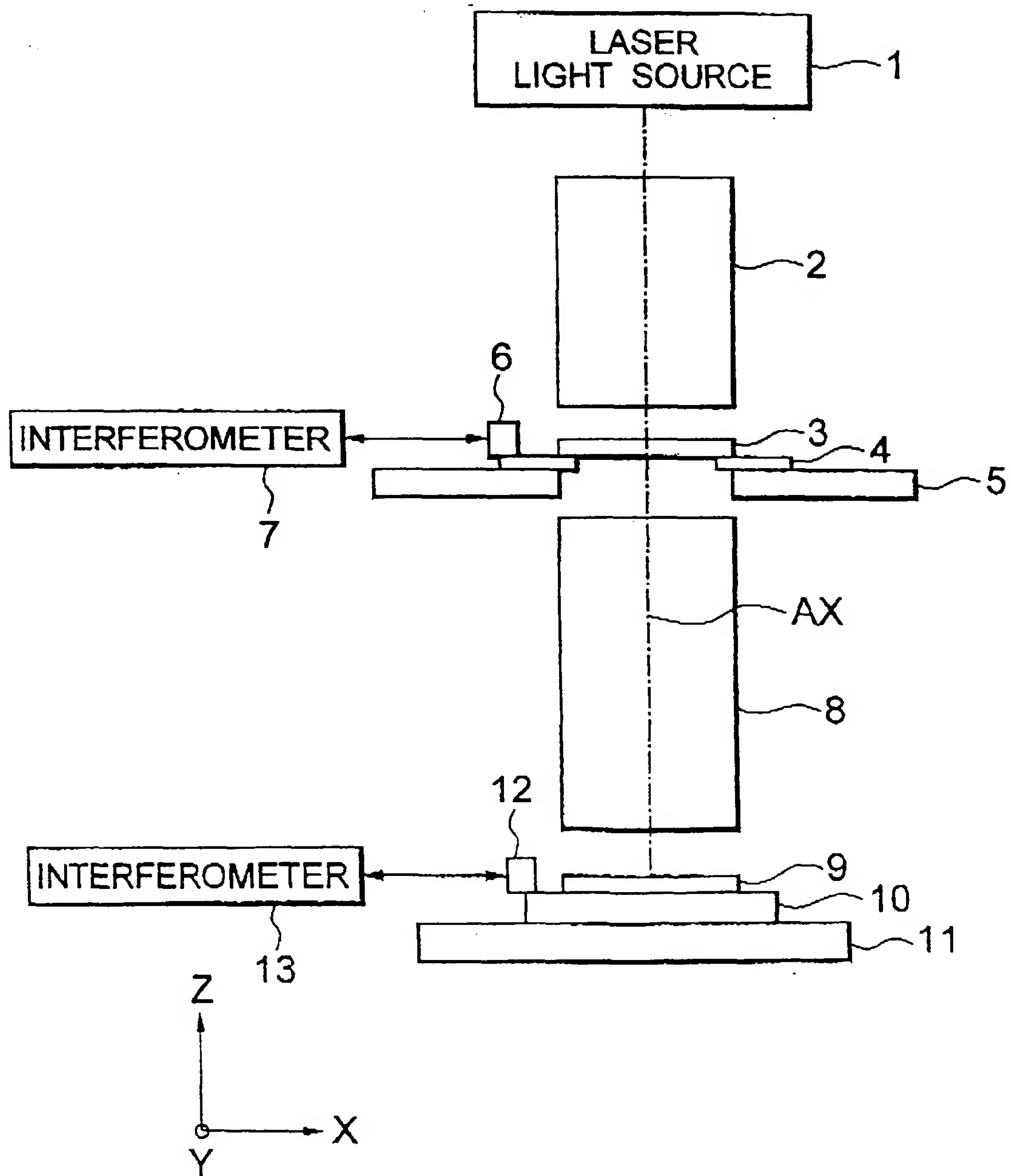


FIG. 2

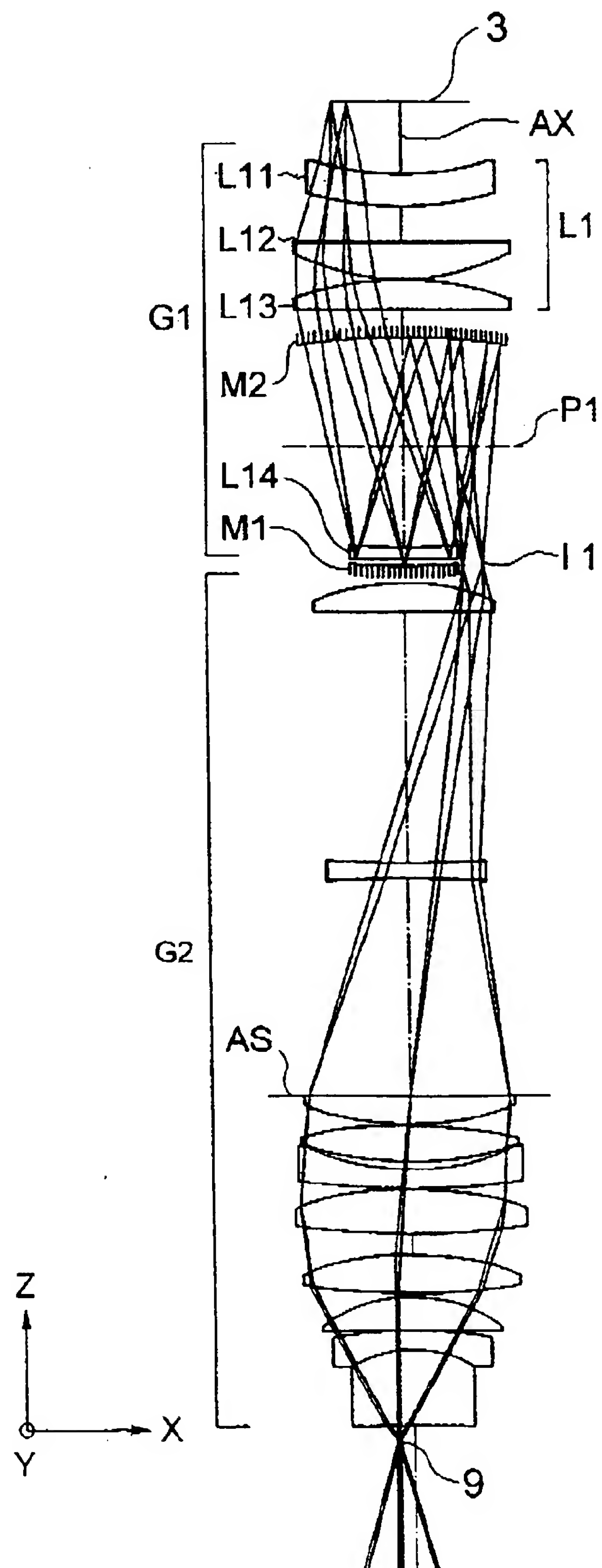


FIG. 3

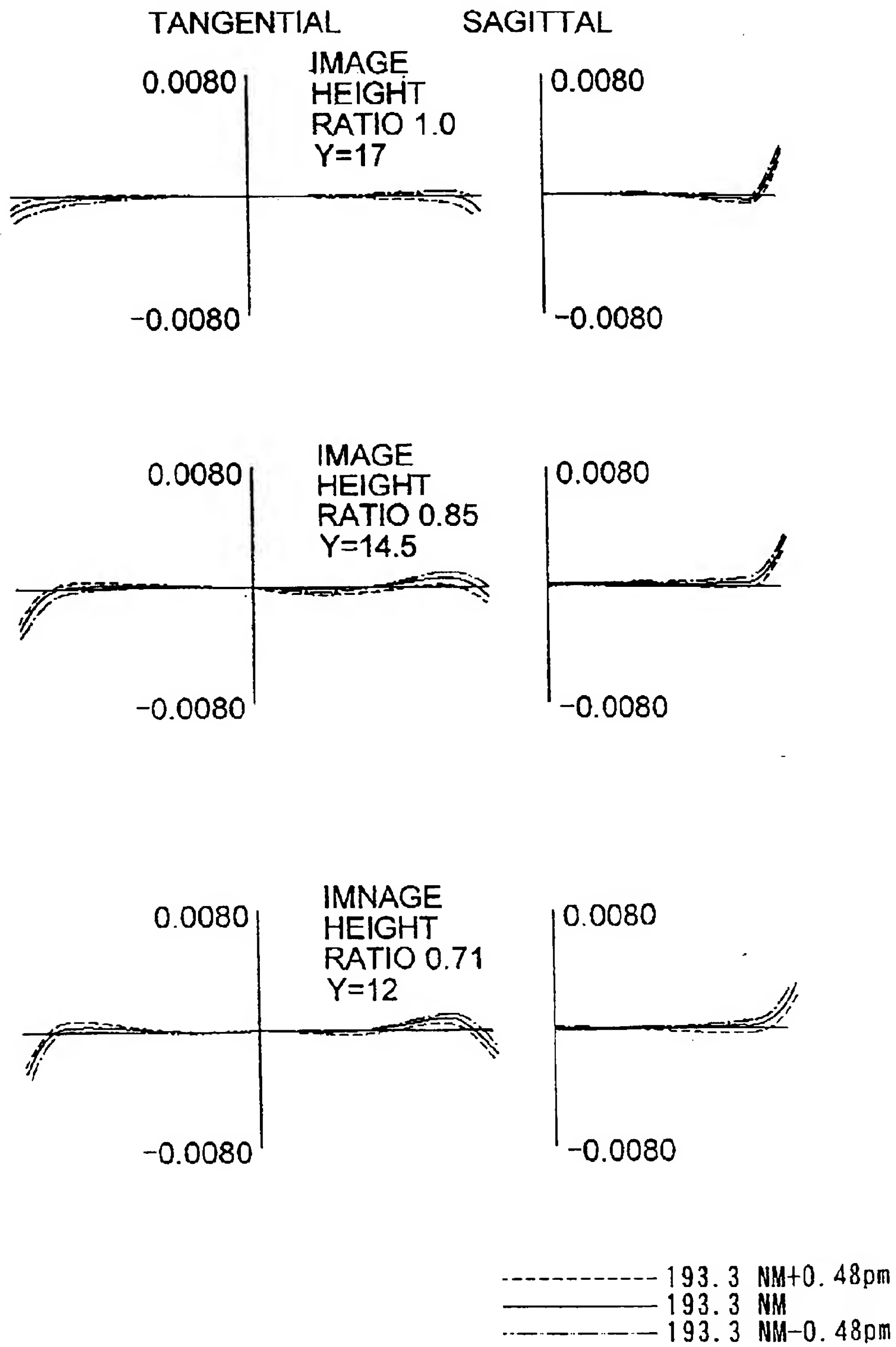


FIG. 4

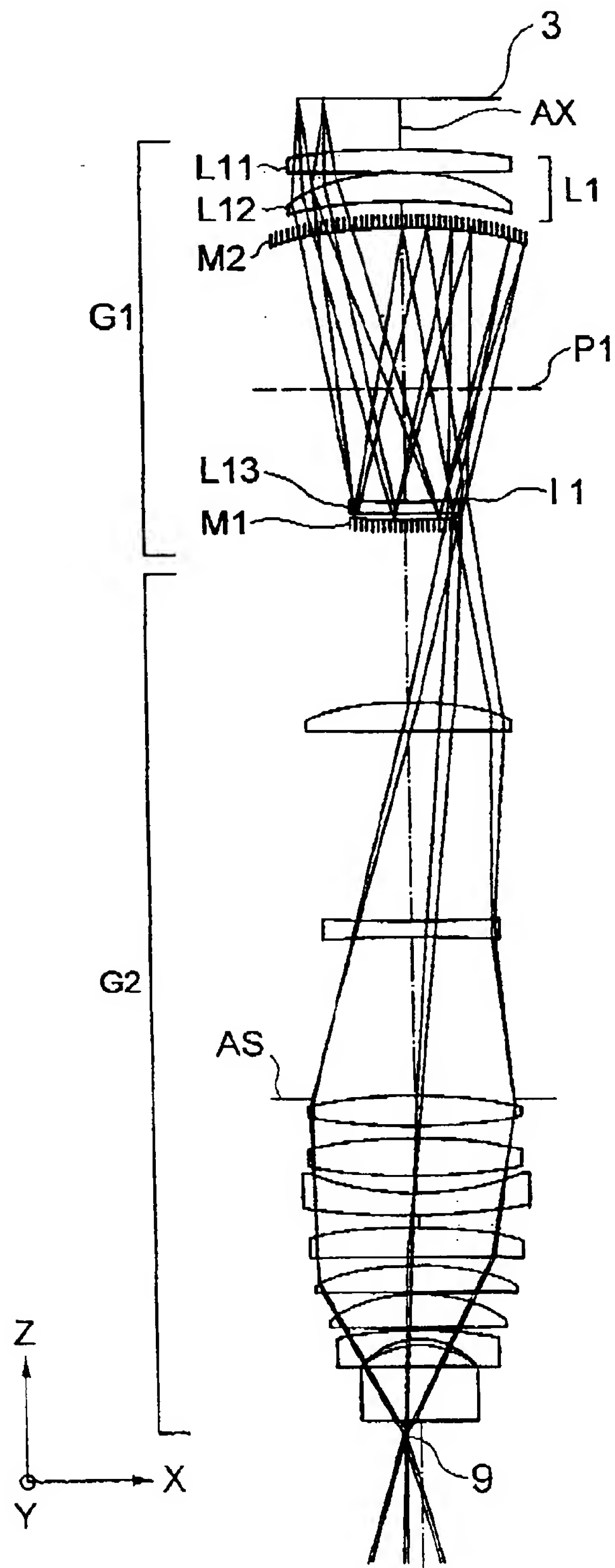


FIG. 5

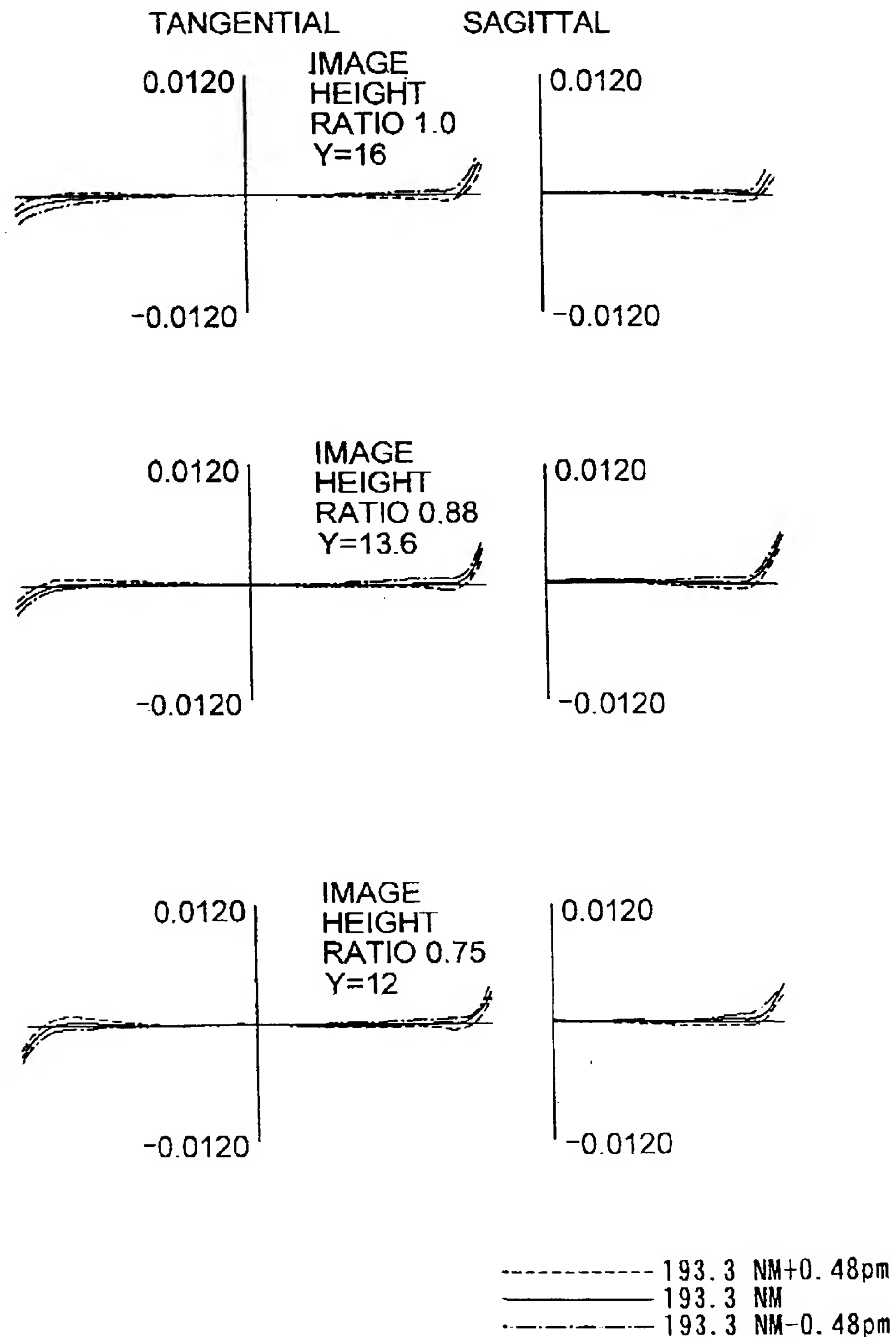


FIG. 6

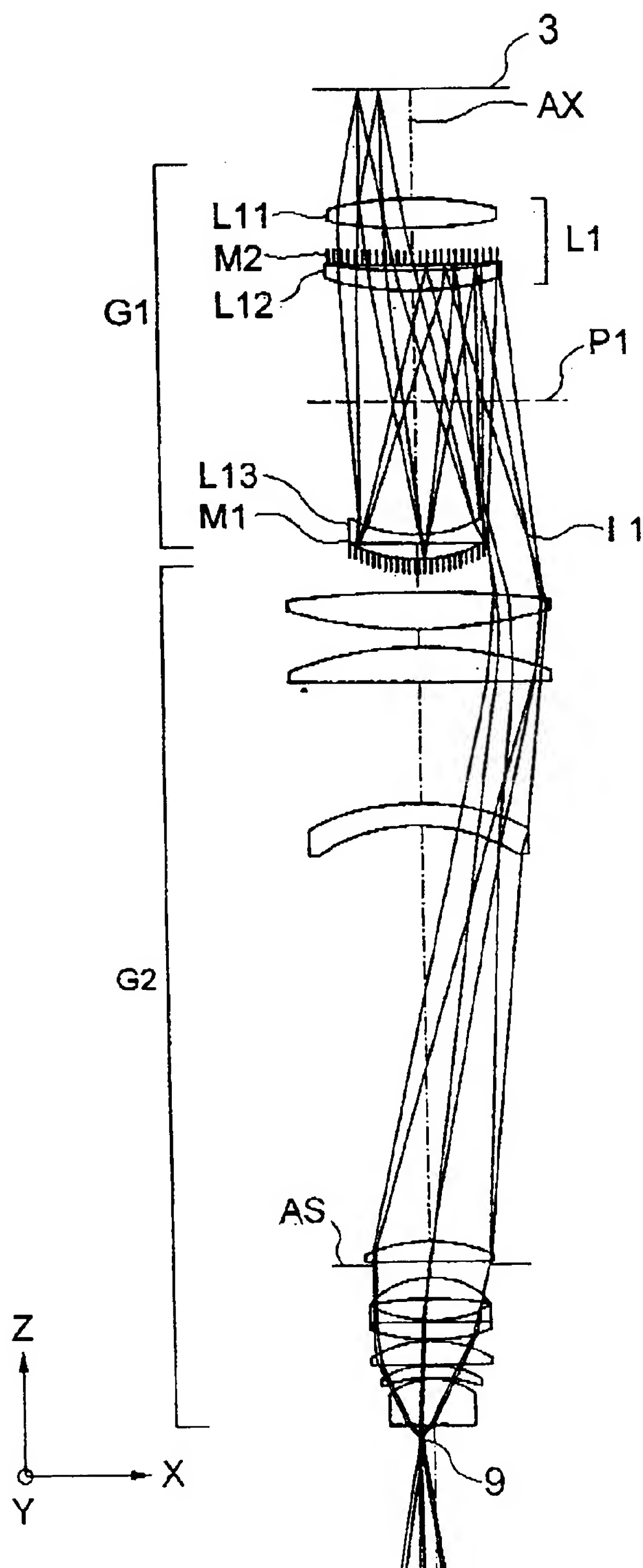
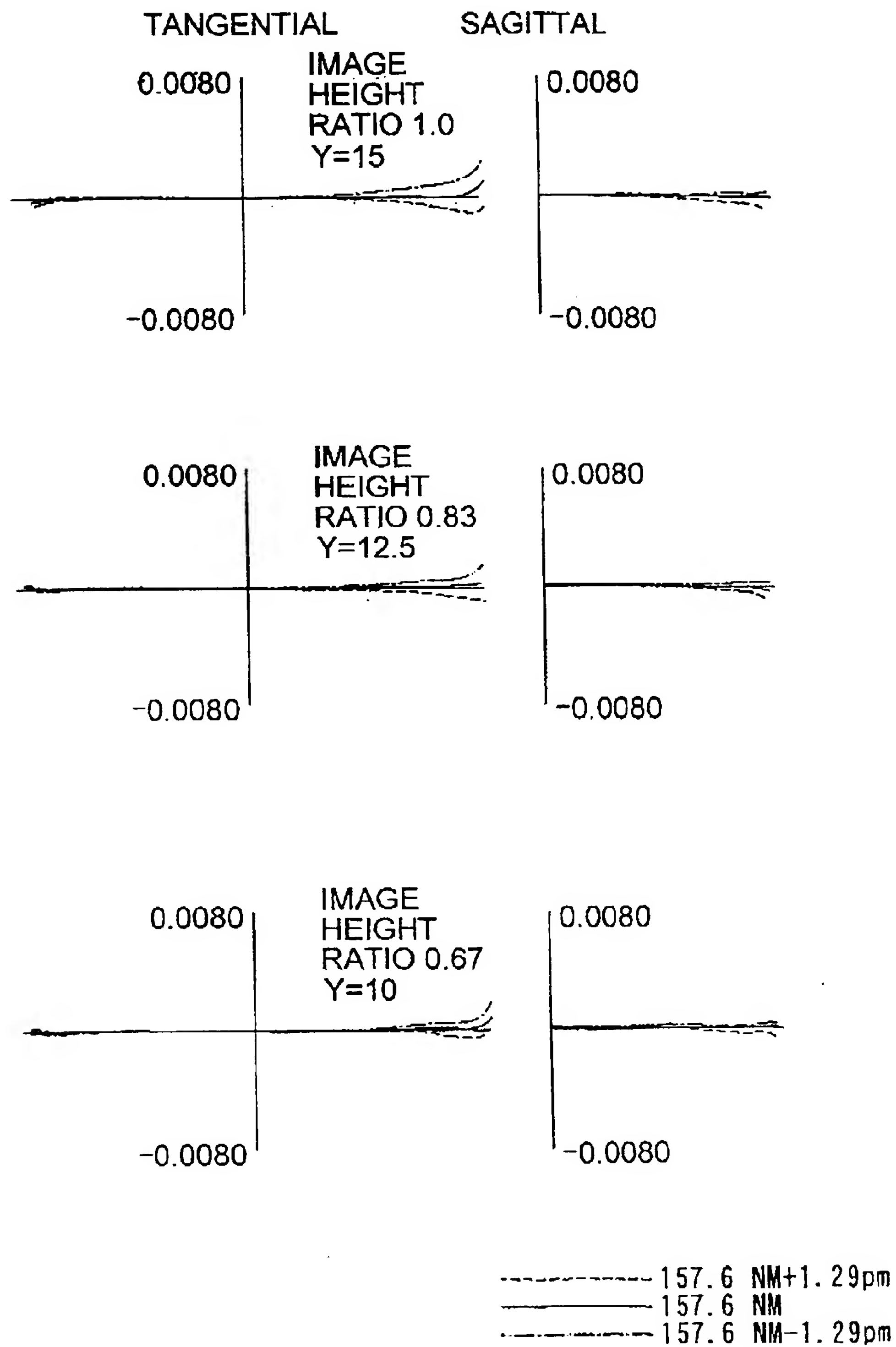


FIG. 7





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 30 5938

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 4 685 777 A (HIROSE RYUSHO) 11 August 1987 (1987-08-11)	1,2,4,8,9,17	G02B17/08 G03F7/20
Y	* column 1, line 8 - line 61 *	3,10,11,15,16	
A	* column 2, line 42 - column 4, line 60 * * abstract; figure 1; table 1 *	7,14	
X	US 4 812 028 A (MATSUMOTO KOHICHI) 14 March 1989 (1989-03-14)	1,2,4,6-9,17	
Y	* column 3, line 11 - column 16, line 34 *	3,10,11,15	
A	* abstract; figures 1-5,8-11 *	13,14	
X	EP 0 779 528 A (SVG LITHOGRAPHY SYSTEMS INC) 18 June 1997 (1997-06-18)	1,2,4,5,7-9,17	
A	* page 3, line 1 - page 9, line 37 * * abstract; figure 3; tables 3,3A *	12,14	
X	US 4 293 186 A (OFFNER ABE) 6 October 1981 (1981-10-06)	1,2,4,6-9,17	
Y	* column 5, line 65 - column 19, line 32 *	3,10,11,15,16	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
A	* abstract; figures 1-10 *	13,14	G02B G03F
X	OWEN G ET AL: "A CATADIOPTRIC REDUCTION CAMERA FOR DEEP UV MICROLITHOGRAPHY" MICROELECTRONIC ENGINEERING,NL,ELSEVIER PUBLISHERS BV., AMSTERDAM, vol. 11, no. 1 / 04, 1 April 1990 (1990-04-01), pages 219-222, XP000134590 ISSN: 0167-9317	1,2,17	
Y	* page 220, line 6 - page 222, line 12 *	15	
A	* abstract; figure 1; table 1 *	5	
		-/--	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 24 October 2000	Examiner Narganes-Quijano, F
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 30 5938

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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Y	* column 5, line 14 - column 11, line 6 * * abstract; figures 5,7,9,11,12 *	3	
X,D	US 5 717 518 A (CHUANG YUNG-HO ET AL) 10 February 1998 (1998-02-10)	1,2,6,17	
A	* abstract; figures 1-3,5 *	13	
Y	WO 95 32446 A (FUERTER GERD ;ZEISS CARL (DE); ZEISS STIFTUNG (DE)) 30 November 1995 (1995-11-30)	3,10	
A	* page 8, line 22 - page 9, line 14 * * abstract; figures 1,3; tables 1,2 *	1,2,4,8-11,15-17	
A	US 5 737 137 A (COHEN SIMON J ET AL) 7 April 1998 (1998-04-07) * column 5, line 8 - line 18 * * abstract; figure 4 *	1,4,11,17	
A	HAGA T ET AL: "Large-field (@? 20 @? 25 mm) replication by EUV lithography" MICROELECTRONIC ENGINEERING,NL,ELSEVIER PUBLISHERS BV., AMSTERDAM, vol. 30, no. 1, 1996, pages 179-182, XP004003058 ISSN: 0167-9317 * page 179, column 2, line 8 - page 181, column 1, line 13 * * abstract; figures 1,2; table 1 *	1,4-6,17	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 24 October 2000	
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 00 30 5938

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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24-10-2000

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